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Proposition 5 Testimony

She *didn't* say: "You can kill your baby if you want." "If it is too hard, too scary, if you think this child growing inside you may make you bitter, drain your bank account, bring you to the brink of divorce, ...you still have time to kill it." *No*, she only had to say: "The earlier you find out the better, so you have more "choices". "

I was at my 13 week ultrasound pregnant with my 6th child. He had water on the brain and the possibility of Trisomy 13, or Down syndrome.

The choice between a peanut butter & jelly sandwich and a tuna sandwich, is a fairly balanced choice. This choice was anything but. One moment my baby was valued, the next worthless, and I got to choose.

I'd like to know, who was there protecting *my* "Reproductive Freedom" 7 years ago, when the high risk obstetrician had me terrified, and my government told me it was ok to take my baby's life? How was I free that day? You are not "free" to choose when you are afraid and confused, when someone is offering you a quick solution to life's inevitable struggles.

It honestly makes me want to throw up when I think what could have happened if I had been paralyzed by my fear that day. My doctor and my government had failed me by giving me a choice that was *no choice*.

My 6 year old son Gus has Down syndrome. He is loving, funny, and mischievous. He is a son, a grandson, a nephew, a friend, a younger brother to 5 and an older brother to one. He is one of a kind and perfect just as God made him. But we only know this because *he lived beyond my fear*.

Please look at the other side of this legislators. There are more women in circumstances like mine than you know. Where are OUR rights and the rights of our children?
Thank you.